

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 3-6, 8, 12, 16-18, 22, 25, 27, 29 and 31 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein.

Please amend Claims 1, 9, 14, 20, 24, 26, 28, and 30 to read as follows:

1.(Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus, comprising:

a) input means for inputting electronic information representing material data into said apparatus;

b) encoding means for encoding the electronic information representing material data to form encoded contents data;

input means for inputting list data of a patent necessary for encoding the electronic information in said encoding means or for decoding the encoded data;

generation means for generating an encryption key based on the list data of the patent;

encryption means for encrypting the encoded contents data by using the encryption key;

list data encryption means for encrypting the list data of the patent;

c) forming means for forming ~~electronic intellectual property management information from information relating to plural intellectual property items, each item being a patent or a utility model, so as to control data processing of the contents data~~ intellectual property management information including the encrypted list data of the patent; and

d) addition means for adding to the encoded contents data encrypted by said encryption means the intellectual property management information formed by said forming means.

2.(Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said encoding means forms MPEG-4 encoded data.

3 - 8 (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~the information on a patent or a utility model includes information on a registration country and a patent number or a utility model registration number~~ the list data of the patent includes a registration country and a patent number.

10. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the material information includes image data.

11. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the material information includes audio data.

12 - 13 (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus, comprising:

a) input means for inputting electronic information representing encrypted encoded contents data and intellectual property management information ~~formed from information relating to plural intellectual property items, each item being a patent or a utility model including encrypted list data of a patent, wherein the list data of the patent is list data of a patent necessary for encoding the electronic information or for decoding the encoded data;~~ decryption means for decrypting the encrypted list data of the patent;

b) discrimination means for discriminating on the basis of the ~~intellectual property management information~~ decrypted list data for the patent whether use of the ~~intellectual property items~~ the patent is authorized;

c) decoding means for ~~decoding the electronic information representing the contents data~~ decrypting and decoding the encrypted encoded contents data; and

d) control means for controlling said decoding means according to the result of the discrimination made by said discrimination means.

15. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the contents data comprises data encoded in accordance with the MPEG-4 coding system.

16 - 19 (Cancelled).

20. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 14, wherein ~~the information on a patent or a utility model includes information on a registration country and a patent number or a utility model registration number~~ the list data of the patent includes a registration country and a patent number.

21. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the contents data includes image data, said apparatus further comprising display means for displaying a content decoded by said decoding means.

22 - 23 (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) A data processing method comprising:

a) an input step of inputting electronic information representing material data into an apparatus;

b) an encoding step of encoding the electronic information representing material data to form encoded contents data;

an input step of inputting list data of a patent necessary for encoding the electronic information in said encoding step or for decoding the encoded data;

a generation step of generating an encryption key based on the list data of the patent;

an encryption step of encrypting the encoded contents data by using the encryption key;

a list data encryption step of encrypting the list data of the patent;

c) a forming step of forming ~~electronic intellectual property management information from information relating to plural intellectual property items, each item being a patent or a utility model, so as to control data processing of the contents data~~ intellectual property management information including the encrypted list data of the patent; and

d) an addition step of adding to the encoded contents data encrypted in said encryption step the intellectual property management information formed in said forming step.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently Amended) A data processing method comprising:

a) an input step of inputting to an apparatus electronic information representing encrypted encoded contents data and intellectual property management information formed from information relating to plural intellectual property items, each item being a patent or a utility model including encrypted list data of a patent, wherein the list data of the patent is list data of a patent necessary for encoding the electronic information or for decoding the encoded data;

a decryption step of decrypting the encrypted list data of the patent;

b) a discrimination step of discriminating on the basis of the ~~intellectual property management information~~ decrypted list data of the patent whether use of the ~~intellectual property items patent~~ is authorized;

c) a decoding step of ~~decoding the electronic information representing the contents data~~ decrypting and decoding the encrypted encoded contents data; and

d) a control step of controlling said decoding step according to the result of the discrimination made in said discrimination step.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing data processing program codes comprising:

a) a code for an input step of inputting to an apparatus electronic information representing material data;

b) a code for an encoding step of encoding the electronic information representing material data to form encoded contents data;

a code for an input step of inputting list data of a patent necessary for encoding the electronic information in said encoding step or for of decoding the encoded data;

a code for a generating step of generating an encryption key based on the list data of the patent;

a code for an encrypting step of encrypting the encoded contents data by using the encryption key;

a code for a list data encryption step of encrypting the list data of the patent;

c) a code for a forming step of forming electronic intellectual property management information from information relating to plurality intellectual property items, each item being a patent or a utility model, so as to control data processing of the contents data intellectual property management information including the encrypted list data of the patent; and

d) a code for an addition step of adding to the encoded contents data encrypted in said encryption step the intellectual property management information formed in said forming step.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing codes comprising:

a) a code for an input step of inputting to an apparatus electronic information representing encrypted encoded contents data and intellectual property management information formed from information relating to plural intellectual property items, each item being a patent or a utility model including encrypted list data of a patent, wherein the list data of the patent is list data of a patent necessary for encoding the electronic information or for decoding the encoded data;

a code for a decryption step of decrypting the encrypted list data of the patent;

b) a code for a discrimination step of discriminating on the basis of the ~~intellectual property management information~~ decrypted list data of the patent whether use of the ~~intellectual property items~~ patent is authorized;

c) a code for a decoding step of ~~decoding the electronic information representing the contents data~~ decrypting and decoding the encrypted encoded contents data; and

d) a code for a control step of controlling said decoding step according to the result of the discrimination made in said discrimination step.

31. (Cancelled)